THE MYSORE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY OF 1914

GENERAL SUBJECTS.

LEGISLATION.

(Nos. 1 to 14.)

SUBJECT No. 1.

Legislative Council.

(a) Mr. Suryanarayana Rao, Tumkur taluk.
(b) *and* (c) Mr. S. Venkatesiah, Hassan District Agricultural and Industrial Association.
(d) Mr. B. Narasinga Rao, Seringapatam taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(a) Eight members may be allowed to represent the 8 districts, in the Legislative Council. At present, 4 members are elected for 8 districts and 4 are nominated. The procedure may be changed so as to have 1 member for each district in the following manner:—

After the election of 4 members, the remaining 4 may be nominated for districts other than those to which the elected members belong.

Mr. Vasudeva Rao proposed that one member for each district might be given instead of one for two districts and that there should be no election by the Representative Assembly Members.

Mr. V. Raghavachar represented that election by the Representative Assembly Members would give scope for better selection as a larger number of qualified men would thereby be made available.

Mr. Anniah Pandit suggested that one member might be elected by the Representative Assembly Members of each district separately instead of four members being elected by all the members.

Mr. Basavayya urged that the interests of the backward communities should be safe-guarded by giving them the privilege to elect a member to the Legislative Council from among themselves.

Mr. Chennakesavaiya represented that a member from one district might be unknown to the people of the other districts and that therefore he could not properly represent them.

Mr. H. Krishna Sastry suggested that the rules already in force should be tried for a sufficiently long time before they were proposed to be altered.

(*b*) The right of interpellation conferred on the Legislative Council may be extended by permitting supplementary questions.

(*c*) A Finance Committee of the Legislative Council may be formed.

Mr. S. Venkatesaiya represented that full information would not be available if the asking of supplemental questions were not permitted, and prayed that this concession also might be granted.

As regards the Financial Committee, he proposed that before grants were given the non-official members of the Legislative Council should also be consulted on the ground that it would be much easier to effect alterations in the budget before rather than after it was submitted to Government.

(*d*) The privilege of moving resolutions in the Legislative Council may kindly be granted to it to enable the members to discuss public questions and help the government in their solution.

Mr. B. Narasinga Rao represented that power to move resolutions in the Legislative Council would be of very great use. As constructive criticism is required, the grant of this privilege would facilitate the attainment of that object. There need be no fear that this privilege, if granted, would be abused because, as the President himself was pleased to remark, the non-official members are alive to their responsibilities.

Reply of Government.—Noted.

SUBJECT NO. 2.

Amendment of the Breach of Contract Act.

Messrs. Chikkamallappa, Gundlupet taluk, K. S. Krishna Iyer, Commercial Association, Bangalore, and Kacharkahalli Subbanna, Bangalore taluk.

Summary of discussion.—In the State, many landholders employ labourers for agricultural work advancing them money beforehand. When these labourers are enticed away by the maistries of His Majesty's territory who come here in search of labourers, they do not return the advance and the implements, and the landholders here are put to great loss as the existing law gives them no relief. It is prayed that the Act may be so modified as to make such offences extraditable.

Mr. K. S. Krishna Iyer.—Offences under the Breach of Contract Act are triable only by a Magistrate of the 1st class or by any other Magistrate specially empowered. This means that the employees have to go long distances to get justice. The offence under the Breach of Contract Act may therefore be made triable by all Magistrates.

Mr. M. S. Ramachar.—Labourers have to be employed and advances given to them for tank work, etc. After receiving the advance they abscond into British villages bordering on Mysore territory. If a criminal complaint is lodged against them it is at present difficult to secure the attendance of these defaulting labourers as the